David Marino-Nachison
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July 5, 2017

Regional Freedom of Information Officer

Environmental Protection Agency

Region 6 (States: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)

Environmental Protection Agency - (6MD-OE)

1445 Ross Avenue

Dallas, TX 75202-2733

## **FOIA REQUEST**

Fee benefit requested

Fee waiver requested

**Expedited processing requested** 

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of all files pertaining to and including the EPA's correspondence with Howard Phillips LLC, d/b/a Phillips Co., of Millerton, Okla., including but not necessarily limited to the time period leading up to and covering the 2009 consent agreement between the agency and the company.

Reference: Consent agreement

I would like to receive the information in electronic format.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on Phillips Co. and its operations that is of current interest to the public because of the history of the company's interactions with regulators and the reasons for those interactions, as stated by the EPA in the consent agreement and other documents.

This information is being sought on behalf of *MarketWatch* for dissemination to the general public.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. This information is intended for use in reporting a story or stories for MarketWatch, a consumer media outlet that covers companies, healthcare, government regulation and other subjects relative to this request.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

Please provide expedited processing of this request which concerns a matter of urgency. As a journalist, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about information about the company's interactions with regulators because of what it may illustrate about the safety and utility of manufactured chemical products, the regulation of companies that manufacture and market them, and the manner in which those companies interact with regulatory bodies.

I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DMN

David Marino-Nachison